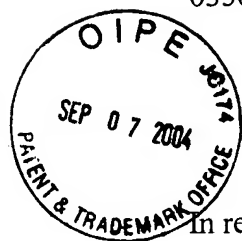


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03500.013395.2

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KEISHI SAITO, ET AL.

Application No.: 10/625,672

Filed: July 24, 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR ELEMENT
AND ITS MANUFACTURING
METHOD

)
:
Examiner: Eugene Lee

)
:
Group Art Unit: 2815

)
:
September 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action dated August 24, 2004, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the Group II claims, namely Claims 20 to 25. The restriction requirement is, however, traversed.

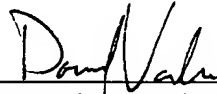
The restriction requirement is traversed on the grounds that the Group I claims (i.e., Claims 1 to 19) are not pending in the application. These claims were cancelled in the Preliminary Amendment filed July 24, 2003.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during a telephonic interview conducted on September 2, 2004. During the interview, it was agreed that the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Damond Vadnais", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Damond E. Vadnais
Registration No. 52,310

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